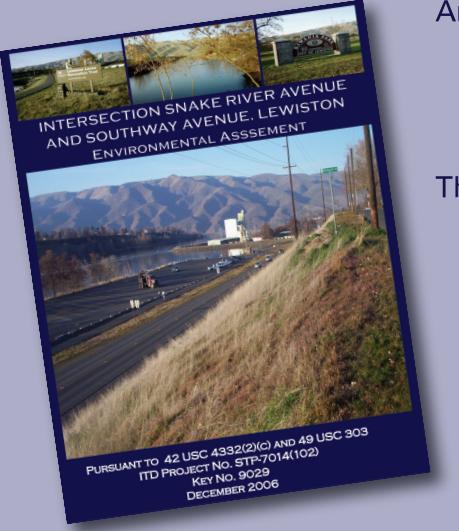


WHAT IS AN ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT (EA)?



An EA is a full disclosure document that provides:

- Detailed description of the proposed project and the existing environment
- An analysis of the anticipated benefits and effects of all proposed improvements

This EA documents impacts to:

- Cultural and historic sites
- Threatened and endangered species
- Recreation and land use
- Water and air quality
- Noise
- Wetlands
- Traffic
- Access and safety

It satisfies the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations to document and analyze the project's impact on the natural and human environment.

The EA addresses the impacts of the Preferred Alternative and the No-Action Alternative.

Project Purpose and Need

An important part of the EA is the Purpose and Need Statement. It explains why the EA is being conducted, provides project history and background, and identifies the problem(s) that need to be solved. The complete Purpose and Need Statement can be found in the EA.

WHAT CAN I EXPECT AT THE PUBLIC HEARING?



The purpose of the hearing is to record public testimony regarding the Environmental Assessment and the recommended improvements for the Southway and Snake River Avenue Project.

Project information will be provided in an informal open house format. Project team members will answer questions one-on-one and a hearing officer will record oral testimony in a private setting. Please bring your questions and comments to the hearing.

WHAT'S NEXT?

The project team will respond to testimony received at the public hearing. The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) will review the public testimony and responses. They will then make a final determination on the project impacts. Design, property acquisition and construction may proceed if FHWA issues a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI). The Snake River Avenue/11th Avenue intersection is approved for funding. Additional funding will be needed to complete the remaining improvements for the project.



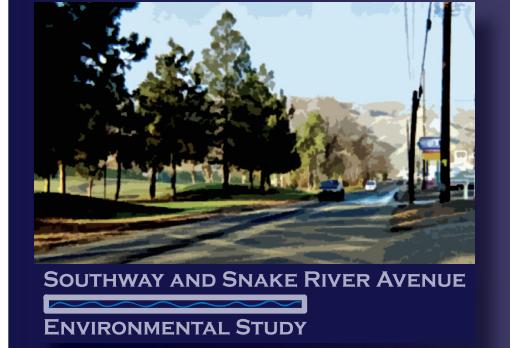
Visit our website at:
www.itd.idaho.gov

Click on Projects; select North-Central Idaho; choose Southway and Snake River Avenue Environmental Study



PUBLIC HEARING

4 p.m. - 7 p.m.
Tuesday, Jan. 8
Lewiston Community Center
Multipurpose Room
1424 Main Street
Lewiston



SOUTHWAY AND SNAKE RIVER AVENUE
ENVIRONMENTAL STUDY

PUBLIC HEARING GUIDE

SOUTHWAY AND SNAKE RIVER AVENUE PUBLIC HEARING
JAN. 8, 2008 4 P.M. - 7 P.M.
LEWISTON COMMUNITY CENTER, MULTIPURPOSE ROOM



This newsletter provides an overview of the proposed Southway and Snake River Avenue Project and the Environmental Assessment (EA). Its purpose is to serve as a guide to what can be found in the EA and how to comment on the proposed project. Refer to the EA document (see back panel for locations) for complete descriptions and full documentation.

THE PROJECT

The City of Lewiston, along with the Local Highway Technical Assistance Council (LHTAC), has been studying roadway improvement options on Southway and Snake River Avenue in Lewiston.

Southway and Snake River Avenue are two-lane roadways within the City of Lewiston. Snake River Avenue provides a north-south connection between the U.S. 12/Main Street Bridge and the Southway Bridge. Snake River Avenue is also a connection between Bryden Canyon Road and downtown Lewiston.

Within the project limits, Snake River Avenue currently carries more than 14,000 vehicles a day. The City of Lewiston forecasts that by 2030, sections of Snake River Avenue will carry in excess of 22,000 vehicles per day and Southway will carry in excess of 17,000 vehicles per day. To avoid additional traffic congestion, roadway improvements are needed.

WHAT'S HAPPENED SO FAR

Public Involvement	Environmental Assessment	Concept Report	Conceptual Design
<p>The public has been asked to share their views, issues and concerns. This input has been used to determine what improvements are needed.</p> <p>✓ Public Agency Meetings</p> <p>✓ (2) Public Meetings</p> <p>✓ (4) Advisory Committee Meetings</p>	<p>An Environmental Assessment has been completed as required by the National Environmental Policy Act. A complete list of the issues evaluated is included in the EA.</p> <p>✓ Cultural Resources</p> <p>✓ Noise Study</p> <p>✓ Air Quality Study</p> <p>✓ Social and Economic Study</p> <p>✓ Water Resources Study</p> <p>✓ Land Use Study</p> <p>✓ Vegetation, Wildlife and Endangered Species</p>	<p>The completed Concept Report identifies improvements needed through 2030 including replacing the Southway/Snake River Avenue intersection and widening both Southway and Snake River Avenue.</p> <p>✓ Recommended Southway/Snake River Avenue Intersection Concept</p> <p>✓ Recommended Southway and Snake River Avenue Concepts</p>	<p>Conceptual Designs have been developed for the recommended improvements and are illustrated inside this brochure. Designs are based on:</p> <p>✓ Surveys</p> <p>✓ Traffic Projections</p> <p>✓ Right-of-Way Determinations</p> <p>✓ Intersection Layout</p> <p>✓ Highway Engineering</p> <p>✓ Cost Estimates</p>

TITLE VI OF THE CIVIL RIGHTS ACT 1964

The Idaho Transportation Department (ITD) is committed to compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and all related regulations and directives. ITD assures that no person shall on the grounds of race, color, national origin, gender, age, or disability be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination under any ITD service, program, or activity. The department also assures that every effort will be made to prevent discrimination through the impacts of its programs, policies, and activities on minority and low-income populations. In addition, the department will take reasonable steps to provide meaningful access to services for persons with Limited English Proficiency.



THE PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE

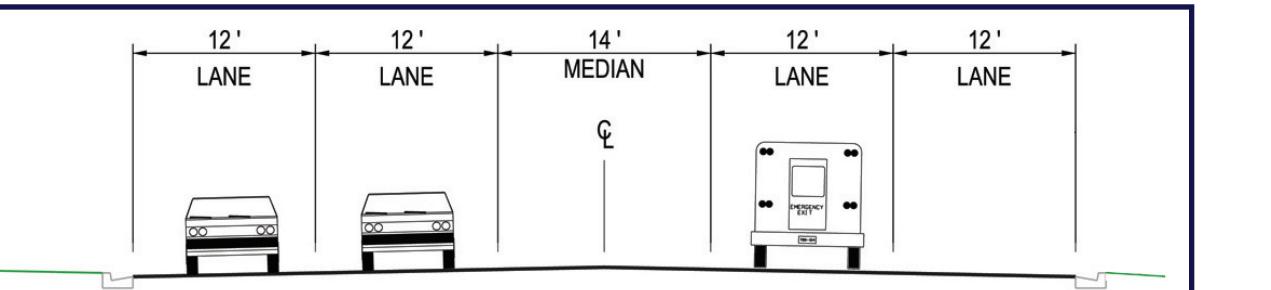
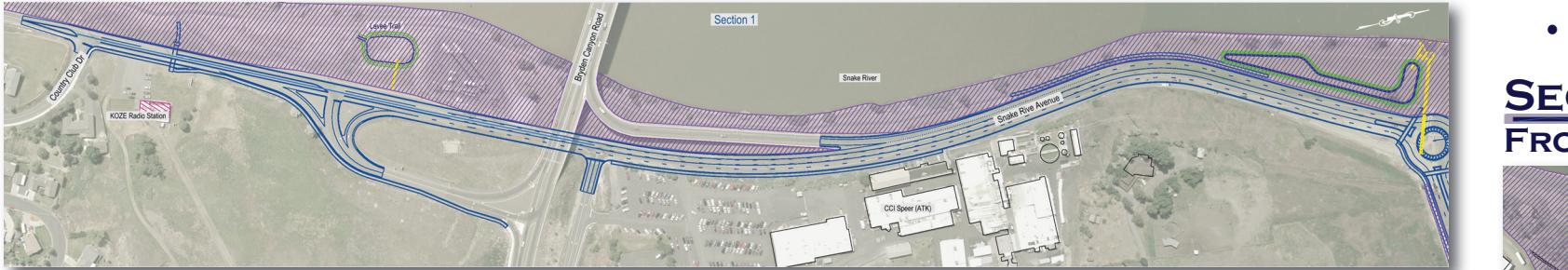
Alternative 4, with Option #3 (Roundabout) for the Snake River/Southway intersection, has been identified as the Preferred Alternative. The No-Action Alternative was also evaluated in the Environmental Assessment (EA) in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). For more information about all the alternatives evaluated, please refer to the EA document.

Alternative 4 was selected because it met the project's purpose and need, increased capacity and improved safety, avoided any Section 4(f) impacts, has few economic impacts and no relocations.

Additional Features

- Water quality improvements for stormwater drainage, consisting of two infiltration ponds and a diversion structure along Snake River Avenue
- Additional parking at Kiwanis Park
- New connection between the Southway and the Levee Recreation Trail, including an underpass south of Bryden Canyon Road and at-grade crossings at Southway

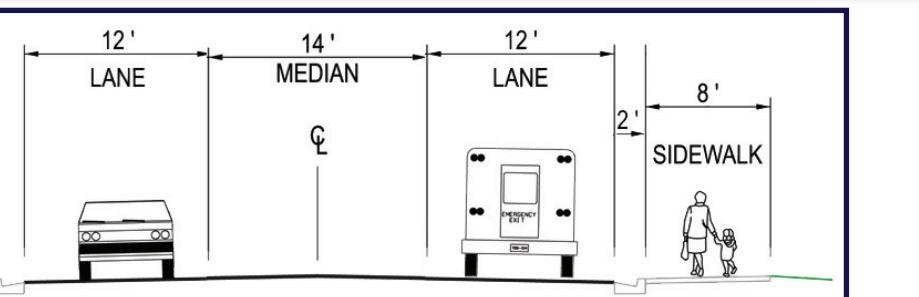
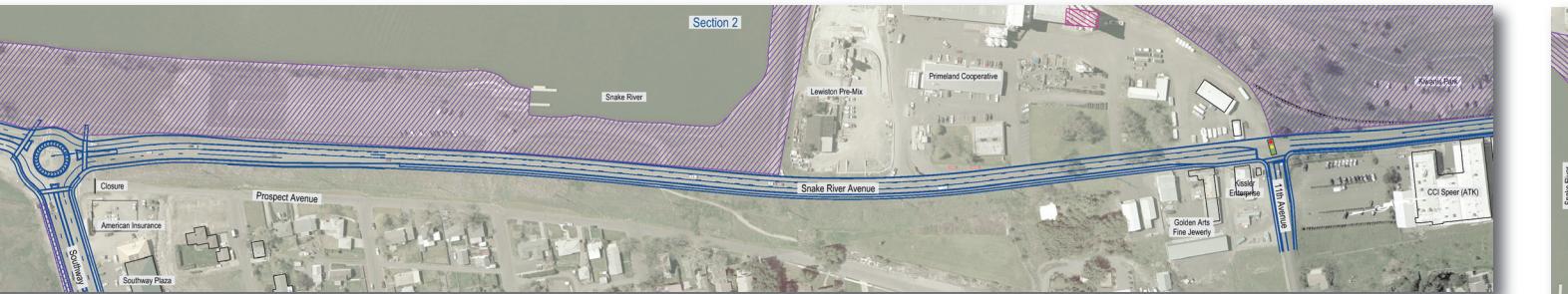
SECTION 1 - SNAKE RIVER AVENUE FROM COUNTRY CLUB DRIVE TO SOUTHWAY



Features

- Southbound: One 12 ft. wide travel lane from Country Club Drive to the Southway Bridge off-ramp, and two 12 ft. wide travel lanes from the Southway Bridge on-ramp to the Southway intersection
- Northbound: One 12 ft. wide travel lane from Country Club Drive to the Bryden Canyon Road exit/entrance ramps, and two 12 ft. wide travel lanes from the Bryden Canyon Road exit/entrance ramps to the Southway intersection
- 14 ft. wide center turn lane/median
- Curb & gutter
- Sidewalk on the east side in front of ATK (east side only)

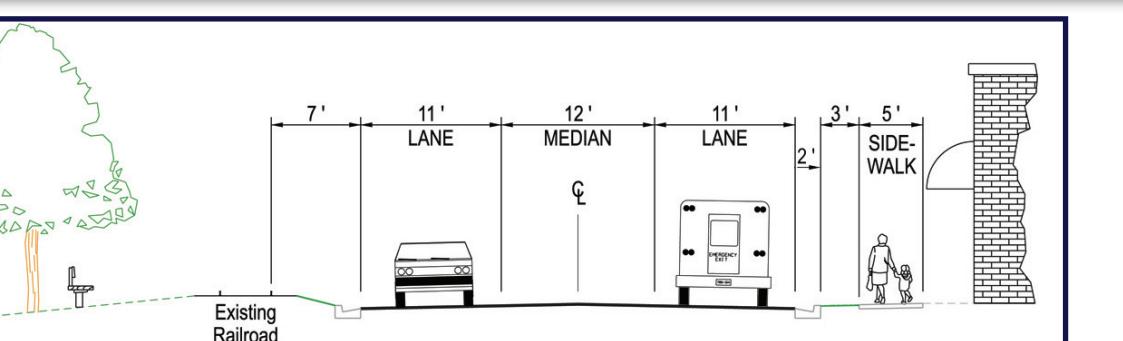
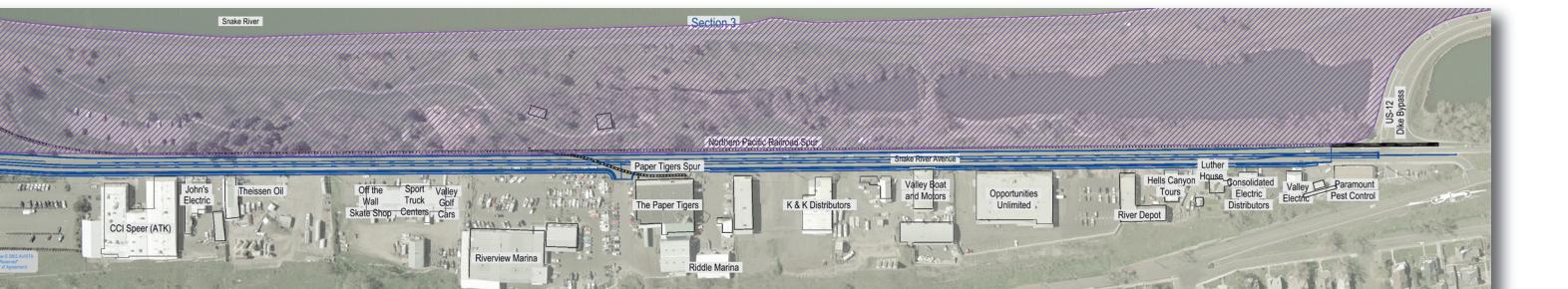
SECTION 2 - SNAKE RIVER AVENUE FROM SOUTHWAY TO 11TH AVENUE



Features

- One 12 ft. wide travel lane in each direction
- 14 ft. wide center turn lane
- Eight foot wide sidewalk on the east side
- Curb & gutter

SECTION 3 - SNAKE RIVER AVENUE FROM 11TH AVENUE TO U.S. 12 DIKE BYPASS

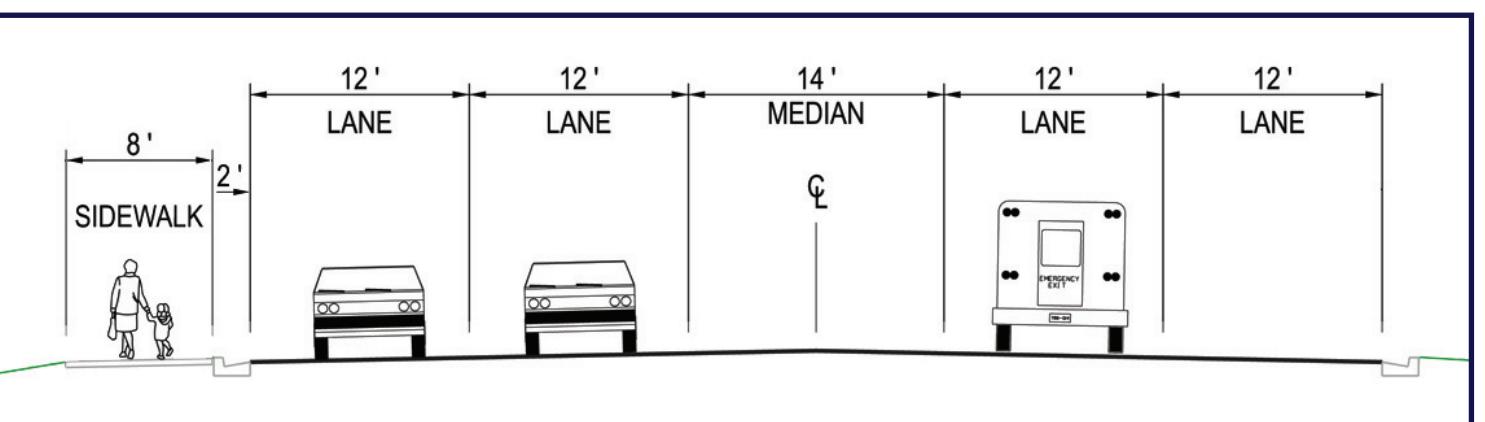


Features

- One 11 ft. wide travel lane in each direction
- 12 ft. wide center turn lane
- Five foot wide sidewalk and three foot wide park strip on the east side
- Curb & gutter

- Snake River Avenue/11th Avenue Intersection**
- Dedicated northbound and westbound right-turn lanes
 - Dedicated southbound left-turn lanes
 - Traffic signal

SECTION 4 - SOUTHWAY FROM SNAKE RIVER AVENUE TO 8TH AVENUE



Features

- Two 12 ft. wide travel lanes in each direction
 - 14 ft. wide center turn lane
 - Eight foot wide sidewalk on the north side
 - Curb & gutter
- Snake River Avenue/Southway Intersection**
- Two lane roundabout intersection
 - 12 ft. wide travel lanes in each direction
 - At-grade pedestrian crossing across all three legs of the roundabout